

As Introduced

**129th General Assembly
Regular Session
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S. B. No. 162

Senator Kearney

Cosponsors: Senators Turner, Smith, Sawyer

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A B I L L

To require the Department of Job and Family Services 1
to conduct a feasibility study of current trends 2
in the placement of children by public children 3
services agencies into relative caregiver homes. 4

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. (A) The Department of Job and Family Services 5
shall conduct a feasibility study of current trends in the 6
placement of children by public children services agencies into 7
relative caregiver homes. The study shall focus on a continuum of 8
options, including informal relative placements, judicial transfer 9
of legal custody or guardianship to a relative caregiver and the 10
Kinship Permanency Incentive Program, use of approved relative 11
caregivers, relatives becoming certified foster caregivers, and 12
relatives as adoptive parents. The study shall include agency and 13
court practices; child outcomes addressing safety, stability and 14
permanency; and state and local cost implications of adding a 15
subsidized relative guardianship program in accordance with 42 16
U.S.C. 671(a)(28). 17

(B) The Department of Job and Family Services shall complete 18
the feasibility study by December 31, 2012, and shall submit the 19
completed report to the Governor and, in accordance with section 20

101.68 of the Revised Code, the General Assembly.

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